CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
CALIFORNIA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

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RADON POTENTIAL IN SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA (2 PLATES, MAP SCALE 1:100,000)

By Ronald K. Churchill, 2008

The Department of Conservation, California Geological survey (DOC/CGS) has completed a radon potential map and report for San Luis Obispo County, California. Zones in San Luis Obispo County where geologic conditions and available data suggest elevated indoor-radon levels will be more commonly encountered are indicated on this map. The map zones show high, moderate and low radon potential areas. Although the Radon Potential Map zones show areas where elevated indoor-radon levels are expected to be more common, the map cannot be used to determine the indoor radon level of a building. All radon zones contain some indoor-radon measurements above, and some below, the U.S. EPA rec ommended action level of 4 picocuries per liter (pCi/l). The only way to determine the indoor radon level of a building is by testing the building for radon, irrespective of the radon zone it occurs within.

The radon map zones are based on indoor-radon measurements of 918 residences collected during a California Department of Public Health-Radon Program survey conducted from October 2004 to January 2005 and National Uranium Resource Evaluation (NURE) project airborne radiometric, soil and sediment uranium data from the U.S. Geological Survey. The maps utilized in developing the radon zones are the 2007 geologic map of San Luis Obispo County compiled by Rosenberg and Natural Resource Conservation Service soil maps for the county. The radon zone mapping process involved comparing indoor radon data, radiometric data, and uranium data from sediment and soil samples with geologic units and soil units using a geographic information system (GIS). Units with higher percentages of indoor-radon data at or above 4 pCi/l were identified as high or moderate radon potential units. Geologic units with airborne radiometric data exceeding 7.5 ppm (parts per million) equivalent uranium or with soil and sediment data exceeding 5.0 ppm uranium were considered to have increased potential for elevated indoor-radon level buildings (radon is a radioactive decay product of uranium). The report accompanying the map provides detailed information about how the radon zones for San Luis Obispo County were developed and their significance.

Price..... $15.00
Shipping and handling..... $5.00

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